

lightly, and this case is no exception. However, the Hoh tribe is in a desperate situation. By transferring this small piece of land to the tribe and taking it into trust we can help the tribe remove themselves from a dangerous situation.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### RECOGNIZING THE ASHLAND-BOYD COUNTY AND CATLETTSBURG POLICE ATHLETIC LEAGUE

• Mr. BUNNING. Madam President, today I would like to recognize the Ashland-Boyd County and Catlettsburg Police Athletic League. The League, a community youth center, strives to improve the lives of children through a variety of activities. The League's goal is to prevent young people from immersing themselves in drugs and other unruly behaviors, as well as giving them a safe place to go.

The Ashland-Boyd County and Catlettsburg Police Athletic League was formed 6 months ago and invites young people from Kentucky, Ohio, and West Virginia. The League introduces young people to many different activities, including exercise, sports and video games, and hopes to incorporate dance, martial arts, and the fine arts into its curriculum.

Currently more than 50 teenagers have registered with the organization and more are interested in joining. The League also has plans of opening a second facility due to a growing interest.

Again, I thank the Ashland-Boyd County and Catlettsburg Police Athletic League for giving young Kentuckians a safe place for mental and physical growth. I wish all the best in the future.●

##### CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF THE CUMBERLANDS

• Mr. BUNNING. Madam President, today I congratulate the University of the Cumberland. The Corporation for National and Community Service awarded the University of the Cumberland with a place on the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll, the highest Federal recognition a school can achieve for dedication to community-based service projects. Honored institutions are chosen from a series of factors, including the extent to which the school offers academic service-learning and the percentage of student participation in service activities.

The University of the Cumberland encourages student involvement in nearby communities by asking that each student complete forty hours of community service by graduation. Students with two hundred hours of community service are eligible to be named Hutton Scholars at Commencement. The university's student run organization, the Mountain Outreach program, has built 125 homes for local families in need of assistance, in the last 25 years.

Again, I congratulate the University of the Cumberland for being named to the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll. I hope that its leadership in community outreach serves as an inspiration to others in Kentucky and in the Nation.●

##### TRIBUTE TO THE 3RD BRIGADE, 98TH DIVISION, 108TH TRAINING COMMAND

• Mr. BUNNING. Madam President, today I pay tribute to the men and women in the 3rd Brigade, 98th Division, 108th Training Command in Lexington, KY, for receiving the 2008 Department of Defense Reserve Family Readiness Award.

For those who are not familiar with this award, it recognizes National Guard and Reserve units who have displayed exceptional family readiness, while sustaining superior military readiness. This award was created in 2000 to recognize these outstanding military units.

The men and women of the 108th Training Command in Lexington have shown that they value each and every family of their unit and remain committed to maintaining healthy relationships at home while they serve elsewhere. The U.S. military is the greatest fighting force in the world. I am proud that the best of the best hail from the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

I now ask my fellow colleagues to join me in congratulating the 108th Training Command for their distinguished accomplishment. They truly make Kentucky and the entire country proud of their service.●

##### HONORING NORTHERN KENTUCKY FIREFIGHTERS

• Mr. BUNNING. Madam President, today I invite my colleagues to join me in congratulating four northern Kentucky firefighters for receiving awards from the Northern Kentucky Firefighters Association: Darlene Payette of Independence, Richard Messingschlager of Kenton County, Clayton James of Newport, and Larry Cappel of Covington.

These brave firefighters have dedicated their lives to helping other people, and each is deserving of their prestigious award. Each award speaks of the character of these individuals.

Darlene Payette received the Emergency Medical Service Award for her actions at Summit Medical in Nicholson during a full arrest in April 2008. During this situation, Ms. Payette's leadership and professionalism allowed her to resuscitate an individual under extreme circumstances.

Richard Messingschlager was awarded the Chief Officer of the Year. His lifelong contributions to firefighting in Kenton County, northern Kentucky, and the Commonwealth serve as an inspiration to firefighters across the State.

Clayton James received the Firefighter of the Year award for dem-

onstrating leadership during the September wind storm and using the recent training he received to set up the National Incident Management System for Newport. His acts led to bringing fire, police, public works, and utility companies together under one command center.

Larry Cappel was honored with the Fire Prevention/Education and Safety Award for his inventive approaches of teaching fire prevention and safety to residents of Covington.

I am humbled and grateful that these citizens serve the people of the Commonwealth, and I know their coworkers are proud to work alongside of them.

Madam President, I would like to thank these individuals for their contributions to the State of Kentucky, and I wish them well as they continue to protect our citizens.●

##### RECOGNIZING KENTUCKY'S FIRST RESPONDERS

• Mr. BUNNING. Madam President, for the last month the attention of the Senate has been focused on the Nation's economic troubles. However, while this is very important legislation, my attention has also been focused on the thousands of Kentuckians who were impacted by the ice storm in my State.

This storm caused the greatest electrical outage in Kentucky history, with over 600,000 people losing power and forcing many to evacuate their homes. Of the 120 counties in Kentucky, 91 were forced to declare a state of emergency. In response, the Kentucky governor was forced to call up 4,600 National Guard troops to assist our first responders. This was the largest mobilization of the Guard in our State's history. This situation could have been much worse if not for the efforts of Kentucky's public safety officials and the Kentucky National Guard. These individuals worked around the clock to ensure that their neighbors had the help they needed during this crisis.

There are many stories of people going beyond the call of duty to assist their fellow citizens. National Guard units went door to door to ensure that people had all the supplies they needed until power was restored. Volunteers kept open shelters and soup kitchens to make sure families had places to sleep and eat. All of these unsung heroes have my respect and admiration.

In closing I am grateful for the efforts of all the first responders across my State including the many volunteers from the Salvation Army, Red Cross, and countless other volunteer organizations that helped to limit the devastation caused by this storm. While I wish that this disaster had never occurred, I am very proud of the way all Kentuckians banded together to support each other during this time of need.●